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[BOE] Addressing the Board of Education

1 message

Jason L. <jaylach@gmail.com> Thu, Jun 26, 2025 at 11:38 AM
To: BOE@colchesterct.org

Please ensure this correspondence is included in the agenda packet for the next Board of Education meeting. **To the Members of the Colchester Board of Education,**

At last night's Board of Finance meeting, Chairwoman Donna raised what I assume was meant to be a rhetorical question: why haven't concerns about your board's spending been addressed directly to you?

Let me take a moment to answer that—because it's easy: there's no point.

Many of us *have* raised our concerns. We've spoken at meetings, written letters, asked questions. In return, we've gotten silence at best, contempt at worst. Not a single concern has been acknowledged in good faith. Not one. What we have gotten is scorn, mockery, and blatant attempts to shut us up.

When members of the public spoke out, the Superintendent—through Alex—responded in writing that not all opinions are valid and not everyone is worth listening to. Message received.

When a citizen raised serious, factual concerns about the Superintendent's relationship with a vendor, this board didn't respond with answers or accountability. Instead, the Superintendent—again, through this board—sent that citizen a **Cease and Desist** letter. Then, behind the scenes, he fed information to FieldTurf that they used to send **another** Cease and Desist—this time not just to the same citizen, but to their **employer** as well. That's not oversight. That's intimidation.

And when I brought up concerns about this board's open hostility to public input? Chairwoman Antonacci muted my microphone mid-sentence and then lied—**on record**—claiming I was off-topic when I was speaking directly to an agenda item. That kind of behavior doesn't show disinterest—it shows contempt.

Outside the boardroom, you've weaponized the press. Donna and Margo have taken to the local paper with a steady stream of letters insulting residents who dare to disagree. We've been called "perennial malcontents," among other gems. Apparently, serving on the Board now includes a part-time gig in amateur name-calling.

So no, we didn't address our latest concerns to you—because you've made it clear you don't listen. You don't engage. You punish.

Thankfully, the Board of Finance seems to finally be paying attention. So maybe, just maybe, we *did* address our concerns to the right board after all.

Sincerely,

Jason LaChapelle